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Michael K. Kirk

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US005207224A

United States Patent [19]

Dickinson et al.

[11] Patent Number: 5,207,224

[45] Date of Patent: May 4, 1993

[54] **MAGNETIC RESONANCE APPARATUS**[75] Inventors: Robert J. Dickinson, Wealdstone;
Christopher P. Randell, Uxbridge,
both of England[73] Assignee: Picker International, Ltd., Wembley,
United Kingdom

[21] Appl. No.: 855,116

[22] Filed: Mar. 18, 1992

Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 441,637, Nov. 27, 1989, abandoned.

[30] **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Dec. 9, 1988 [GB] United Kingdom 8828810

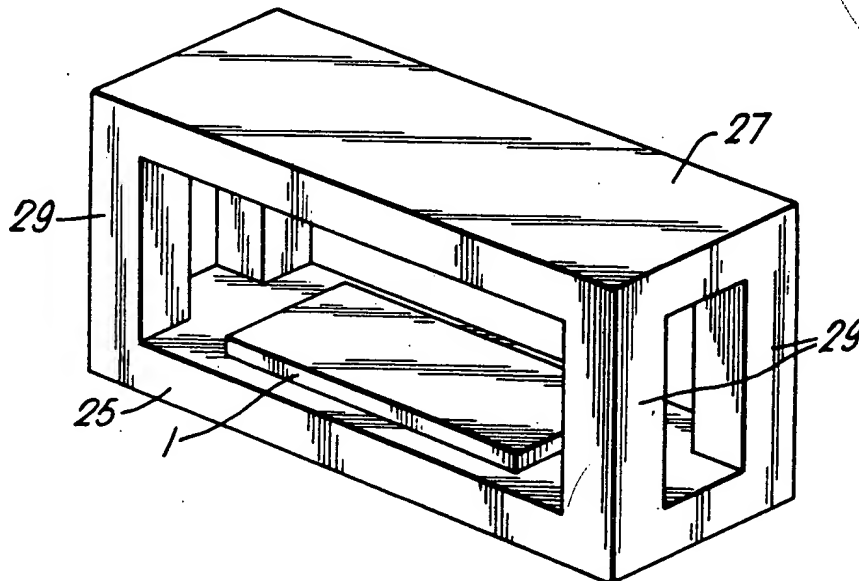
[51] Int. Cl.³ A61B 5/055[52] U.S. Cl. 128/653.5; 324/318;
5/601[58] Field of Search 128/653.2, 653.5;
324/309, 318, 322; 378/208, 209; 5/601, 600,
611[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**4,681,308 7/1987 Rice 378/209
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May 31, 1986.*Primary Examiner*—Ruth S. Smith
Assistant Examiner—K. M. Pfaffle
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Timothy B. Gurin[57] **ABSTRACT**

A magnetic resonance imaging apparatus using a transverse magnet system (29) and having a patient handling arrangement (31, 33) which allows transport of a patient into the magnet system by first moving the patient in a direction (A) at right angles to the head-to-toe axis (B) of the patient. The patient's position in the magnet system may then be adjusted by movement in the head-to-toe axis direction. The area required to accommodate the apparatus is reduced compared with apparatus wherein patient transport is effected solely in the patient's head-to-toe axis direction.

13 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets



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